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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RESOLUTION

TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 9th October 1958

No. 37(1)-T.R./58.—The Tariff Commission has submitted a Report on the continuance of protection to the Calcium Carbide Industry and fair ex-works selling price of calcium carbide produced by the Birla Jute Manufacturing Company Limited. Its recommendations are as follows:—

- (1) Protection to the industry should be extended for a further period of three years beyond 31st December, 1958, at the existing rate of protective duty, i.e., 50 per cent. *ad valorem*.
- (2) Government should take early steps to have a careful assessment made of the demand of high grade electrode paste and to arrange to establish one or more units to manufacture such paste in the country as quickly as possible.
- (3) Government should take necessary steps at an early date to establish capacity for the manufacture of superior high grade coke. Until such capacity is established and/or alternative source of supply of high grade coke is located, it is important that there should not be any restriction on the supply of coke to the calcium carbide industry from the Railway coke plant at Giridih.
- (4) The industry should take up with the Indian Standards Institution the question of the revision of those grade sizes which are not wanted by the consumers, and ensure that there is no divergence between the specifications of grade sizes in which calcium carbide is marketed and those prescribed in the Indian Standard.
- (5) There has been some improvement in the quality of calcium carbide but the quality still falls short of the standards prescribed in the Indian Standards Institution Specification. Efforts should be made to improve the quality of the domestic products so as to bring them to the Standard quality 'A' of the I.S.I. specification.

- (6) One of the serious obstacles to the achievement of radical improvement in the quality of calcium carbide produced by Birla Jute Manufacturing Co. Ltd. is the inferior quality of raw materials, namely limestone and coke. The company should, therefore, exercise better quality control over the materials charged into the kiln and the furnace.
- (7) The system of differential prices between the two classes of consumers, namely, dissolved acetylene manufacturers and others should be abolished forthwith.
- (8) The fair ex-works selling prices of different grades of calcium carbide should be fixed as given below and should hold good upto the end of 1960:—

Size	1 Cwt. packing	2 Cwt. packing Per cwt.
4/80 mm	Rs. 43.50	Rs. 43.00
25/80 mm	Rs. 45.50	Rs. 44.25
15/25 mm	Rs. 41.50	Rs. 40.50
4/15 mm	Rs. 35.00	Rs. 34.00

These selling prices are exclusive of charges such as transportation and handling for the factory, local taxes, if any, and Selling Commission payable to agents.

- (9) The next review of fair selling prices should take place at the beginning of 1961 or should be held earlier if the cost of production goes down appreciably after a new furnace and additional equipment have been commissioned by the firm.
2. Government accept recommendation (1) and will take suitable steps to implement it in due course.
3. Government have taken note of recommendations (2) and (3) and steps will be taken to implement them as far as possible.
4. The attention of the industry including the Birla Jute Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Calcutta, is invited to recommendations (4) to (6).
5. Government also accept recommendations (7) to (9) and will take steps to implement them in due course. As regards selling commission payable to Agents, the following arrangements have been approved:—
- (i) The manufacturer will continue to supply carbide directly to all Dissolved Acetylene Gas manufacturers (Indian Oxygen Ltd., Asiatic Oxygen and Acetylene Co., Industrial Gases Ltd., Modi Vanaspati Manufacturing Company Limited) for their acetylene bottling plants at their net ex-factory rates without any addition on account of selling commission or other charges.
- (ii) For all other parties, supplies will be made as usual, through their agents, who may charge selling commission at not more than Rs. 5 per drum of 50 Kgm. on their net ex-factory rates.

ORDER

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all concerned and that it be published in the *Gazette of India*.

S. RANGANATHAN, Secy.